

PROJECT 10073 RECORD CARD

1. DATE <u>13 May 52</u>	2. LOCATION <u>Greenville, S. Carolina</u>	12. CONCLUSIONS		
3. DATE-TIME GROUP Local <u>2233</u> GMT <u>14/0233 Z</u>	4. TYPE OF OBSERVATION <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ground-Visual <input type="checkbox"/> Ground-Radar <input type="checkbox"/> Air-Visual <input type="checkbox"/> Air-Intercept Radar	<input type="checkbox"/> Was Balloon <input type="checkbox"/> Probably Balloon <input type="checkbox"/> Possibly Balloon <input type="checkbox"/> Was Aircraft <input type="checkbox"/> Probably Aircraft <input type="checkbox"/> Possibly Aircraft <input type="checkbox"/> Was Astronomical <input type="checkbox"/> Probably Astronomical <input type="checkbox"/> Possibly Astronomical <input type="checkbox"/> Other <u>POSS GEESE</u> <input type="checkbox"/> Insufficient Data for Evaluation <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown		
5. PHOTOS <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	6. SOURCE <u>3 amateur astronomers</u>			
7. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION <u>5 seconds</u>	8. NUMBER OF OBJECTS <u>4</u>	9. COURSE		
10. BRIEF SUMMARY OF SIGHTING Glowing brownish orange color. Oval shape. Straight and level. No definite conclusions. Similar sightings have been geese or ducks.		11. COMMENTS Objects were in tight diamond formation. Seemed to oscillate slightly. One source seemed to indicate he thought they were geese. Size of half-dollar at arm's length.		

UNCLASSIFIED

104 OF 105 OBSERVATIONS
DISAPPEARANCE, CHECKED

WHICH OF THESE 104 OBSERVATIONS
ARE SUBDIVIDED INTO MAJOR AND MINOR CATEGORIES
THESE OPERATIONS ARE DESIGNED TO TEST
THEORIES OF THE PHYSICAL WORLD AND TO
TEST WHETHER THEORIES OF THE PHYSICAL WORLD
ARE CORRECT. THE THEORIES ARE TESTED
BY MEANS OF OBSERVATIONS WHICH ARE
MADE IN A NUMBER OF DIFFERENT
WAYS AND ARE OF VARIOUS TYPES.

[REDACTED]

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UNCLASSIFIED

13 May 1952

• Greenville, South Carolina

Description of Incident

On the night of 13 May 1952 at 2233 EST, four amateur astronomers observed a diamond formation of four oval-shaped objects. The objects were observed visually from the ground. The objects were sighted nearly overhead and disappeared at an angle of about 12° in three seconds. They were described as being reddish-yellow or reddish-brown in color. They were relative in size to a half dollar, quarter turned, at arm's length. The objects appeared to wobble in their flight and being oval-shaped appeared to be flying sideways.

The night was extremely clear. The sources stated that there was haze and ground illumination near the city, but that they were on the Furman University campus and that there were no ground lights near nor haze.

TWO → One observer was inclined to believe these were geese.

Comments

The description of this incident is very similar to others from drive-in theaters and one from Fargo, North Dakota, on 25 April 1952, that were ducks. In this case, however, there were no ground lights in the area to reflect from a bird. This is borne out by the fact that these people had set up their telescopes in a dark area, which is essential for good astronomical observing.

It is not known how much light a bird will reflect, but it seems logical that a relatively bright ground source of light would be needed.

As was stated, one source was sure they were geese but the other three were just as sure they were not.

The possibility of aircraft is nil since they passed directly overhead with no sound.

Conclusion

Unknown

Why?

DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS.
DOD DIR 5200.10

UNCLASSIFIED

*****65
MAY 13, 1952, GREENVILLE, SOUTH CAROLINA (KEYHOE-1953 P 148) 4 WITNESSES 500
FOUR ASTROMERS REPORTED SEEING FOUR SAUCER-SHAPED OBJECTS FLYING IN A 01
DIAMOND-SHAPED FORMATION. GLOWING A DUSKY YELLOW. THE OBJECTS PASSED 02
SILENTLY OVERHEAD, WOBBLING SEVERAL TIMES BEFORE THEY WENT OUT OF SIGHT. ALL 03
FOUR OBJECTS, THE ASTROMERS AGREED, HAD AN OVAL SHAPE, LIKE THAT OF A DISC 04
FLYING ON ITS SIDE. 05

99

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON

UNCLASSIFIED

THE INSPECTOR GENERAL USAF
6TH DISTRICT OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS
ROBINS AIR FORCE BASE, ROBINS FIELD, GEORGIA

SPOT INTELLIGENCE REPORT

28 MAY 1952

FILE NO: 24-0

SUBJECT: UNCONVENTIONAL AIRCRAFT SIGHTED IN GREENVILLE,
SOUTH CAROLINA AREA - 13 MAY 1952
SPECIAL INQUIRY

TO: Director of Special Investigation DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS;
Headquarters USAF DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS.
Washington 25, D. C. DOD DIR 5200.10

I. SYNOPSIS: 1st Lt ARTHUR S. PALMER, 375th Troop Carrier Wing Intelligence Officer, Donaldson AFB, South Carolina, received information from the Officer of the Day, 13 May 1952, that unidentified objects had been sighted by members of a group of amateur astronomers at approximately 2233 hours, EST, 13 May 1952.

II. DETAILS: (1) Mr. [REDACTED], Greenville, South Carolina, was interviewed by Lt. PALMER and made the following written statement:

"On the night of May 13, 1952, at approximately 2233 EST, a group of amateur astronomers of whom I was one gathered on the Campus of Furman University, Greenville, South Carolina, for an evening of observing. As we were preparing to leave, I noticed four (4) objects, modified cylinder or obloid in shape, flying at an unknown altitude on a heading of about 300 degrees. These objects were brownish orange in color and rather dull glowing in appearance.

"These objects were in a diamond formation, almost directly overhead, going on a straight course, oscillating slightly, first one side would tip up then the other. They were in sight for about five (5) seconds."

(2) Mr. [REDACTED], Greenville, South Carolina, was interviewed by Lt. PALMER and made the following written statement:

UNCLASSIFIED

File 24-0, subj: "Unconventional Aircraft Sighted in Greenville, S. C.
Area - 13 May 1952

"On the night of May 13, 1952, at approximately 2233 EST., a group of amateur astronomers of which I was one, were preparing to return home after an evening of observing from the Furman Campus located in Greenville, South Carolina. At this time, [REDACTED], one of the group, called our attention to what I would say were four objects, each the shape of the goose without neck or tail. They were a luminous brown or orange color, possibly translucent and flying in a diamond formation. Distance between each object was about five (5) times the width of each object.

"They were flying about ten (10) to fifteen (15) degrees from directly overhead, on a level course heading about 330 degrees. Altitude I would say was below 1000 feet if they were about the size of geese. They were visible for about ten (10) seconds."

"Their flight was oscillating in nature, first five (5) degrees up on one side and at the same time down on the other."

(3) Mr. [REDACTED], Greenville, South Carolina, was interviewed by Lt. PALMER and made the following written statement:

"On the night of May 13, 1952, at approximately 2233 EST, a group of amateur astronomers, of which I was one, gathered on the campus of Furman University located in Greenville, South Carolina. We were getting ready to call it an evening when James Richardson, one of the group, called our attention to four (4) obloid, self-illuminated, brownish yellow objects traveling in a diamond formation. These objects were in sight for about three (3) seconds traveling on a level course slightly arced to the left on a heading of about 300 degrees.

"I was unable to estimate the altitude or speed of these objects. They traveled directly overhead, making no sound, and rather wobbling in flight. Motion was similar to heavy winged birds in flight. It was a clear, quiet night, excellent for astronomy. There was a slight ground haze over the city, however, this did not extend to the Furman campus where it was perfectly clear.

"By way of further description, I would say the objects were similar to the 'Lubbock Lights' as reported in Life magazine. Approximate size would be that of a half dollar held at arms length and slightly turned."

File 24-0, subj: "Unconventional Aircraft Sighted in Greenville, S. C.
Area - 13 May 1952

III. ACTION: No action is contemplated at present by 6th District OSI (IG) in reference to this matter. Lt. PALMER has advised that Air Intelligence Information Report, Form 112, Part I, concerning this incident was forwarded Headquarters USAF on 16 May 1952.

Leo H. Johnson
LEO H. JOHNSON
Lt Colonel, USAF
District Commander

cc: CG, AMC
Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio
ATTN: MCIS

COUNTRY
United States

REPORT NO.

1

AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

SUBJECT

Sighting of Unidentified Flying Objects

AREA REPORTED ON

Greenville, South Carolina

FROM (Agency)

375th T. C. Wing Intelligence

DATE OF REPORT

16 May 1952

DATE OF INFORMATION

14 May 1952

EVALUATION

PREPARED BY (Officer)

Arthur S. Palmer

SOURCE

Local Citizens

REFERENCES (Control number, directive, previous report, etc., as applicable)

None

SUMMARY: (Enter concise summary of report. Give significance in final one-sentence paragraph. List inclosures at lower left. Begin text of report on AF Form 112—Part II.)

Inclosed are four (4) statements from local citizens concerning an unusual sighting made in Greenville, South Carolina, on 13 May 1952 at 22:33 EST.

The sightings were not made by military personnel, but by a group of Greenville people. Two of these, Mr. [REDACTED], a local attorney, and Mr. [REDACTED] are responsible adult citizens, and [REDACTED], a level-headed Senior High School student. These reports give a concise summary of the incident.

Mr. [REDACTED] has also furnished a more complete statement in addition to the original certified to by the Wing Intelligence Officer.

As far as is known, this constitutes the first local sighting of this nature by any creditable sources.

DEGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS;
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS.
DOD DIR 5200.10

ARTHUR S. PALMER
1st Lt, USAF
Wing Intelligence Officer

DEGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS;
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS.
DOD DIR 5200.10

4 INCLs.

ATIC 62620

DISTRIBUTION BY ORIGINATOR

USAF

NOTE: THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS INFORMATION AFFECTING THE NATIONAL DEFENSE OF THE UNITED STATES WITHIN THE MEANING OF THE ESPIONAGE ACT, 50 U. S. C.—31 AND 32, AS AMENDED. ITS TRANSMISSION OR THE REVELATION OF ITS CONTENTS IN ANY MANNER TO AN UNAUTHORIZED PERSON IS PROHIBITED BY LAW. IT MAY NOT BE REPRODUCED IN WHOLE OR IN PART, BY OTHER THAN UNITED STATES AIR FORCE AGENCIES, EXCEPT BY PERMISSION OF THE DIRECTOR OF INTELLIGENCE, USAF.

SECURITY INFORMATION

(CLASSIFICATION)

60-85509-1

★ U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 1950 O-918131

UNCLASSIFIED

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

16. Major _____ make the following statement concerning
any unusual fighting which is true and correct to the best of my
knowledge.

On the night of May 13, 1952, at approximately 2235 EST, a group of amateur astronomers, of which I was one, gathered on the campus of Furman University located in Greenville, South Carolina. We were all getting ready to call it an evening when one of the group, called our attention to four (4) oblong, semi-illuminated brownish-yellow objects traveling in a diamond formation. These objects were in sight for about three (3) seconds traveling on a level course slightly angled to the left on a heading of about 300 degrees.

I was unable to determine the altitude or speed of these objects. They traveled directly overhead, making too soon, and rather wobbly, in flight. Motion was similar to being wingshaken during ship flight. It was a clear, quiet night, excellent for astronomy. There was a slight ground haze over the city, however, this did not extend to the Sunman campus where it was perfectly clear.

By way of further description, I would say the objects were similar to the "Tubbob Light" as reported in the magazine. Approximate size would be that of a half dollar held at arm's length and slightly turned.

WITNESS

A CERTIFIED TRUE COPY

Archaeo-Schol.

ARTHUR S. PAWLIK
1st Lt. USAF

Greenville, S. C.

AF450922

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

I, Mr. [redacted] make the following statement concerning an unusual sighting, which is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

On the night of May 13, 1952, at approximately 2233 EST, a group of amateur astronomers of which I was one, were preparing to return home after an evening of observing from the Furman Campus located in Greenville, South Carolina. At this time,

one of the group, called our attention to what I would say were four objects, each the shape of a goose without neck or tail. They were a luminous brown or orange color, possibly translucent and flying in a diamond formation. Distance between each object was about five (5) times the width of each object.

They were flying about ten (10) to fifteen (15) degrees from directly overhead, on a level course heading about 360 degrees. Altitude I would say was below 1000 feet. They were visible for about ten (10) seconds.

These flights were oscillating at this time, about five (5) degrees up on one side and the same time down on the other.

Hab. 12:5-8

A CERTIFIED TRIP-COUNT

Charles S. Palmer

ARTHUR S. PALEY
1st Lt, USAF

Greenville, S. C.

AF450970

RFC

TO MEET THE NEEDS OF CHILDREN.

UNCLASSIFIED

1. **Indicate** **whether** **the** **following** **statements** **concerning** **constitutional** **rights** **which** **is** **true** **and** **as** **correct** **to** **the** **best** **of** **your** **knowledge**.

On the night of May 13, 1952, at approximately 1235 EST, a
group of amateur astronomers, of whom I was one, gathered on the
Cotton Gin Road, Unit 1000, Greer Mills, South Carolina, to observe
a series of celestial objects which were progressing to the west. I observed
one (4) objects, a modified exhibition of oblique in shape, first
and second magnitude, and a third of 3.00 degrees. These objects
were of varying colors, some being yellow, others red, others

These older individuals had learned to walk almost directly, even though some of them could occasionally walk with a slight lateral gait. 140. *W. 44* (right) *Fig. 1* (b) *Table 1*

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John C. Elmer

THE SPANISH WOMAN

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Greenline 80 G

DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS.
DOD DIR. 5200.19

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On May 13, 1952 I was one of a group of 15 attending a meeting of an Astronomy Club at Princeton. We were on the Campus between Main and Fine Streets with all the ground lights extinguished observing constellations, including that of Mingo, Vega, Bootes, Rigelius. We had completed our study of 150 double stars and were amusing ourselves by looking through the telescope through thecombeonices and observing the ring of Saturn. We found the atmosphere to be filled with atmospheric haze and clouds and commented on the clearness of Saturn and the ring. It was the first time for several weeks that we had been able to see clearly from the planet.

At approximately 10:39 P.M. on the 8th, G.I.P. called on the 8th, G.I.P. was passing through the 2nd floor.

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